

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-06 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

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R 071114Z FEB 75

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DEPT PASS COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, OECD

SUBJECT: WORKING PARTY ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING,
FEBRUARY 4-5

1. SUMMARY. WORKING PARTY ON TEXTILE AND CLOTHING SECTORS CONVENED FEBRUARY 4. WORK PROCEEDED QUICKLY AND SPECIFIC TERMS OF REFERENCE IN LINE WITH US POSITION WERE ADOPTED. END SUMMARY.

2. WORKING PARTY CONVENED MORNING FEBRUARY 4 TO CONSIDER GENERAL TERMS OF REFERENCE PROPOSED BY INDUSTRY COMMITTEE AND DEVELOP SPECIFIC TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MANDATE FOR SUBMISSION TO INDUSTRY COMMITTEE AT ITS MARCH MEETING.

3. US DELEGATE, EDWARD GOTTFRIED OF DOC OFFICE OF TEXTILES, WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN, AND GROUP PROCEEDED TO GENERAL DISCUSSION OF GENERAL TERMS OF REFERENCE.

4. DUE TO RELATIVELY MODEST ATTENDANCE AND OBVIOUS LACK
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OF PREPARATION ON PART OF THOSE DELEGATES WHO WERE

PRESENT INITIAL DISCUSSION WAS RELATIVELY UNEXCITING, AND GROUP PROCEEDED QUICKLY TO DISCUSSION OF EACH GENERAL TERM OF REFERENCE.

5. ALL FIVE GENERAL TERMS OF REFERENCE WERE DISCUSSED AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT TWO OF THEM, I.E., THOSE DEALING WITH INFLATION AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE BETWEEN COUNTRIES AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT, WERE NOT PARTICULARLY PRIMARY CONCERNS OF THE WORKING PARTY.

6. HOWEVER, THERE WAS SOME CONCERN, PRIMARILY ON THE PART OF SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES, WHICH WAS REITERATED THE SECOND DAY, THAT THE WORKING PARTY OUGHT TO CONSIDER SOME ASPECTS OF THE IMPACT OF TRADE IN TEXTILES WITH LDC'S ON MEMBER COUNTRIES. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, US POSITION THAT THE PROPER FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF LDC TRADE MATTERS IN TEXTILE AND CLOTHING SECTORS IS THE MFA WAS ADOPTED, AND WORDING TO THAT EFFECT IS CONTAINED IN ACCOMPANYING NOTE TO MANDATE WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO INDUSTRY COMMITTEE.

7. THE WORKING PARTY THEN ADJOURNED TO ALLOW SMALLER GROUP TO DRAFT SPECIFIC TERMS OF REFERENCE. THESE WERE CONSIDERED BY ENTIRE WORKING PARTY WHICH DECIDED TO:
A) COLLECT AVAILABLE DATA AND REPORTS ON IMPACT OF PRICE AND AVAILABILITY OF ENERGY AND RAW MATERIALS;
B) CONDUCT SURVEY OF MEMBER COUNTRIES TO DRAW UPON EXPERIENCES RE ANY ADVERSE IMPACT OF ENERGY SITUATION IN THESE INDUSTRIES.

8. THE INTENT OF WORKING PARTY IS THAT STUDY BE USEFUL TO MEMBER COUNTRIES IN DEALING WITH PROBLEMS IN THEIR TEXTILE AND CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, AND IS TO BE COMPLETED BY NOVEMBER 1, 1975. THESE TERMS OF REFERENCE ARE IN LINE WITH US POSITION AND WERE ADOPTED WITH ONLY MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, CLOTHING, MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 FEB 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OECDP03322
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750045-0572
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750262/aaaacd1.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORKING PARTY ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING, FEBRUARY 4-5
TAGS: EIND, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006